



# News Release

## WISCONSIN ARMY AND AIR NATIONAL GUARD

Public Affairs Office  
2400 Wright Street  
Madison, WI 53704

Contact: Lt. Col. Tim Donovan  
608-242-3050  
Cell: 608-516-1777

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### Homeland Defense Update

## More than 8,400 National Guard soldiers and airmen available in Wisconsin

The Wisconsin National Guard now has about 8,450 soldiers and airmen available to provide effective military capability on short notice anywhere in Wisconsin.

The Wisconsin Guard has been actively involved in the global war on terror since the morning of September 11, 2001. Since that time, around 54 percent of the Guard's soldiers and airmen have served on active duty either at home or overseas. Most of these 5,300 soldiers and airmen have completed their active duty missions and are back in Wisconsin serving with their Army and Air National Guard units.

Wisconsin's available resources include the National Guard's 500-soldier Rapid Reaction Force, which is capable of responding on short notice anywhere in Wisconsin with an initial force of 125 soldiers, and 375 additional soldiers available within 24 hours to sustain operations as long as required.

Of the Wisconsin National Guard's approximately 9,900 members, there are just more than 1,330 serving on active duty. Among those, approximately 1,090 are currently deployed overseas.

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